

SOUTH TIDWORTH. ST MARY'S

January 18th 2023 CHURCH PLAN



Part A - Current Report

Part B - Survey

Results of our open survey conducted in Summer and Autumn 2020, canvassing all community contacts for their reaction to Part A. The survey remains [open and available at this location](#). Please feel free to repeat your survey response or complete the survey for the first time.

Part C - Community Recommendations

Minutes of any community meetings held to discuss the information available in other parts of the Church Plan.

Part D - Action Plan

Details of any actions agreed through Community Recommendations, assigned to community participants, Churches Conservation Trust staff, or to the Churches Conservation Trust Local Community Officer specifically.

Part A - Current Report

Church Introduction & Statement of Significance

St Mary's Church in South Tidworth, Wiltshire, England, was built in 1878. It is recorded in the National Heritage List for England as a designated Grade I listed building. The church was declared redundant on 1 September 1972, and was vested in the Trust on 19 December 1973.

The church was built of rock faced brown stone, in a Gothic Revival style, by John Johnson, with work supervised by G.H. Gordon, for Sir John Kelk, near the site of an older medieval parish church. Kelk, an engineer and major building contractor, had previously worked with Johnson on the construction of the Alexandra Palace. St Mary's cost Kelk £12,000.

The chancel is 28 feet (8.5 m) by 17 feet (5.2 m) and the three by nave 43 feet (13 m) by 17 feet (5.2 m). There are also north and south aisles and a north vestry and a south porch. There is a bell turret with a tapering spire, also known as a flèche, at the top of a buttress on the west wall. Pevsner describes the bell tower as "perverse and wilful...à la Burges".

Pevsner considers the interior "sensational, in scale as in everything else". It includes carvings and polished marble shafts in the columns of the arcade piers. The chancel floor is laid with Italian mosaic. There is also a silver chalice and patens of 1837 and 1877 and a silver-gilt flagon of 1869. The altar and stone carvings were built by Farmer & Brindley.¹The stained glass is by Clayton and Bell apart from the east window which was designed by Heaton, Butler and Bayne.

The church is situated in the grounds of Tedworth House, which has now been leased by the MoD to Help for Heroes as a rehabilitation centre for servicemen and women.

Current use (bookings) & voluntary activity

St Mary's South Tidworth currently has no registered volunteers associated with it.

Over the course of the past decade there have been two long term regular users of the building for worship; a group of Fijian service-men and their families, and latterly a group called Gateway to Empowering Ministry through Service (GEMS). However, both groups, despite early positive relationships with the CCT, became problematic and uncommunicative and stopped paying for use of the building, leading to their eventual abandonment and eviction from the building.

GEMS have left a large amount of their possessions in the church, causing both an eyesore and a health and safety and fire hazard. Despite repeated attempts to contact them to remove these possessions as of September 2020 the only solution CCT have been left with is to dispose of these possessions ourselves.

In 2018 the CCT received sponsorship for a Christmas Memory Tree to be hosted in the church from the local Polo Club.

Other than the now defunct regular use of the church mentioned above, it also has occasional requests for use for photo shoots and amateur filming, and there was a wedding held at the church in 2018.

Collection Review

Open Churches Policy status:	Open
Local Community Officer:	Rachel Whitty
Current project:	None
Cleaning schedule:	Infrequent. Before use.
Welcome table:	Present. New CCT walk around guidebook
Keyholder role:	None
Key representative role:	Not fulfilled
Area volunteer role:	None
Fundraising roles:	None
Stewardship roles:	None
Research, interp & talks role:	None
Accessibility details:	Provided via website
CCT silver plaque:	Installed, poor condition
CCT information board:	Installed. Single bay. By main road gate to churchyard.
Oak post:	Installed.
CCT freestanding board:	Provided
Wall safe poster:	Installed, current
CCT A board:	Provided
Gift Aid envelopes:	Provided
Visitor book:	Provided
Building services:	Electric lighting and sockets. Water main brought to rear of the church but not terminated.
Parking:	Space for 6 cars in the yew avenue, but curb needs dropping to make it useable. .
Organ:	Yes. American Organ. Indigenous Willis Organ to South Ham, Basingstoke.
Churchyard:	Partially vested with CCT.

Ringable bells:	1. Hung stationary with trigger-action clapper
Pews:	Yes.
Fire rated capacity:	200
Seating capacity:	Not determined
Site plan:	Available
Roof alarm:	None
CCTV:	None. CCTV signs and dummy camera in porch.
Individual item security measures:	None.
Nearby attractions:	
Public transport:	
Social media presence:	GEMS had a social media presence, but none now.
Images on CCT website:	One of three
Regular feature parish news:	Unsure
Services per year:	0
CofE support for services:	Unsure
Christmas memory tree:	Yes, in 2018. Sponsorship from the neighboring Polo club.
Tea Party:	No.
Historic Church Tour:	No
Heritage Open Days:	No
Ride & Stride:	No
Champing:	No.
Retail:	No.
Risk assessment general:	Current
Risk assessment fire:	Current
COSHH listing:	Current
Portable appliance listing:	Current
Security Audit:	2015
Learning and Participation events	No.
Explorer tags	No.

Conservation reports

<p>Annualised maintenance costs (Exclusive of VAT):</p> <p>Annualised maintenance costs express the total costs of church maintenance divided by 25 years. Every cost which relates to maintenance is included except the twice-yearly maintenance visit. Any anticipated repairs are also excluded. A list of typical maintenance tasks for any historic church, forecast over the period, is available to view at appendix 2.</p>	£5,086.44
<p>Routine maintenance costs (Per annum and exclusive of VAT):</p> <p>Total cost of two maintenance visits per year exclusive of any additional maintenance items included above. A list of the maintenance tasks included in the twice-annual maintenance visits is available to view at appendix 3.</p>	£552
<p>Other maintenance costs total (Exclusive of VAT):</p> <p>Additional maintenance needs discovered during twice-yearly maintenance visits, costed and listed individually below.</p>	£124,150 (repairs)
<p>Total short term repairs:</p> <p>Small scale items of limited cost which could be fulfilled with minimal fundraising.</p>	£15,650.00
- Minor roof repairs	£8,650.00
- RWG	£3,500.00
- Repairs to external windows and doors	£3,500.00
<p>Total medium term repairs:</p> <p>More expensive needs such as roof repairs and tower repairs which may require more involved fundraising and grant applications.</p>	£107,000.00
- Relay nave, vestry and boiler room roofs	£100,000.00
- High level cleaning and crack filling	£4,000.00
- Repair to tower timber and plaster ceilings	£3,000.00

Total long term repairs: Items which are known to require works in the longer term but which are not essential in the near future.	£1,500.00
Pews and other internal joinery repairs	£1,500.00
Total desirable repairs: Repairs which are not essential to the conservation health of the church but which might improve aesthetics or usability of the building.	£0
All cost figures are estimates, exclusive of VAT and professional fees. VAT is charged at 20% of the total costs and can sometimes be recovered. Professional fees vary, but are either charged at an hourly rate or as a percentage of the total project cost. These are usually charged only on larger or more complex projects.	

Income, Expenditure & Balances

Income

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Wallsafe income	76	8	29	36	29
Total income	781	1,118	129	236	3,149

Visitors

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Numbers of visitors	4,277	2,032	2,816	685	1,528
Wallsafe income per visitor (£)	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.02

Expenditure

Total expenditure since vesting: £54,550

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Maintenance	2,438	1,153	931	594	1,122
Conservation	2,438	-	-	-	-
Electricity	872	789	-428	1	632

Balances

The restricted balance is the amount of money which has been covenanted or restricted for expenditure at the church. Any expenditure needs to match the terms of the covenant under which the money was donated, for example, a term expressing that a donation is intended for roof repairs only.

Restricted Balance Report Jul '19	£0
Income less expenditure '19/'20	£1395
Income less ann. maint.'19/'20:	-£1937.44

Local Community Officer's Summary

Over the past decade St Mary's South Tidworth has had little voluntary support, but has had several groups using the church for worship on a regular basis. A Fijian group of soldiers and their families were using the church when I joined the CCT in 2012 and then later GEMs (Gateway to Empowering Ministry through Service) became the regular users. Unfortunately, relationships with both of these groups became problematic as hire fees went unpaid and communications became sparse and difficult.

GEMs became completely uncontactable in early 2020 and have since left a large amount of their possessions in the church, causing both an eyesore and a health and safety and fire hazard. Despite repeated attempts to contact them to terminate their lease agreement and request removal of their possessions, as of September 2020 the only solution CCT have been left with is to dispose of these possessions ourselves.

I have previously enjoyed a positive relationship with staff at Tedworth House and they have certainly been 'good neighbours', providing a skip for rubbish, paying for an expensive asbestos survey, and acting as keyholders for the building. However, since 2018 I've been unable to find a regular contact at Tedworth House, which is something I will endeavor to do, particularly in light of our current issues at the church.

St Mary's is a well located and equipped building with electricity supply and ample storage space, which has potential to be developed and used much more by the local community, if desired. GEMs initiated many positive practical developments at the church during their term including management of the wooded driveway to the church and laying bark chippings to make it accessible to vehicles. They also initiated a relationship with the new housing development on the other side of the road which resulted in a mains water supply pipe being brought to the North side of the church, ready for installation to the building when the Conservation Team see fit.

St Mary's has also suffered from several incidences of anti-social behavior and vandalism, including the breaking of the electronic door lock, drinking and smoking in the church (and associated rubbish) and more recently chalked graffiti on the interior and exterior of the building.

Improved visitor interpretation (currently a CCT Walk around guide leaflet) and scheduled guided tours could increase the donation per head at St Mary's.

South Tidworth has good potential to be used as a champing site, once the rubbish is removed from site.

I hope that new ideas and supporters for the church might emerge from the church planning and community consultation process.

Part B - September 2020 Survey

Summary of consultation responses received by end August 2020

*Following distribution of fifteen questions through our standard church plan questionnaire in summer 2020 to existing Churches Conservation Trust correspondents, (together with an invitation for correspondents to share the survey and associated Church Plan Part A), **no response** was received for **South Tidworth, St Mary's** by the deadline of **August 30th**.*

The response received was from a respondent writing in a **[no response]** capacity, who confirmed that their responses related to **St. Mary's, South Tidworth**.

In addressing the question of *a perfect outcome for our work together at the church* the respondent indicated **[no response]**

In writing about challenges anticipated in respect of repair liabilities and running costs, the respondent indicates **[no response]**

Thinking about local life away from the church, in relation to other community projects or activities which might combine with our work to protect the church for the future, the respondent indicated **[no response]**

Considering if increased use of the church might benefit the community, or if increased use might benefit the church itself, the respondent indicated **[no response]**

In relation to identifying conservation priorities for the church, the respondent provided **[no response]**

Regarding priorities, opportunities or ideas for fundraising the respondent noted **[no response]**. In respect of means for initiating fundraising activity, the respondent gave **[no response]**. The respondent also indicated that they would **[no response]** be available to participate in fundraising activity.

In seeking respondents' participation in a future group discussion regarding church planning the respondent indicated **[no response]**.

In answering our final, open question about any additional church matters not covered in other areas of the survey, the respondent indicated **[no response]**.

In addition to responses fielded through the questionnaire, a further **[no response]** respondents wrote back to their Local Community Officer, expressing the following perspectives:

Nil

Part C - Community Recommendations

Following the survey sent out in summer 2020, an invitation to an online meeting to discuss the church plan was sent to existing Churches Conservation Trust correspondents. No responses were received for St Mary's South Tidworth by the deadline of 8 January 2021.

No records of church plan meetings could be located between 2020 and 2023

Meeting with one community supporter (referred to as **A1**) took place after meeting up with a family hoping to book the church for a wedding.

RW had met **A1** on a couple of occasions previously as a result of vandalism to the stained glass window and leaks in the roof. RW updated **A1** that quotes for the stained glass repair as well as the leaking roof and the electrics were being progress with Conservation. RW thanked **A1** for sending on quotes from their contacts which had been passed onto the Conservation team.

A discussion took place about what could be done to improve the current opening arrangements as it was difficult to leave the church open during the day as so much petty vandalism had been occurring and with the lack of electricity due to the fire, and lack of any other volunteers other than **A1** to be on site. RW suggested and **A1** agreed that a sign should be put up on the noticeboard with **A1's** mobile 'phone number to call and arrange a visit, a call out for volunteers and that the church could be hired and also on the CCT website.

Action – short term- RW to amend the website and send appropriate posters to A1

RW went through the detail of the church plan with **A1**. They had not realised that services could be held in the church and RW explained that they would need to contact the local incumbent if they wanted to pursue this further. **A1** was keen to explore all options for church use as it could be such a fantastic community space, coffee mornings, art workshop, flower arranging, mother and toddler groups, yoga to name a few and also champing. The issue at the moment was facilities with the lack of lighting and no toilets although **A1 had** provided portaloos which they were happy to be kept at the church.

RW said that there was no reason that some activities couldn't go ahead without electricity and it would be a good way of raising the profile of the church and much needed funds. All that would be required would be the complete of the necessary venue hire and booking forms. **A1** agreed and said that they had been shown how to complete the paperwork by the previous LCO.

RW and **A1** completed a tour of the interior and exterior of the church. **A1** explained that they been putting woodchips down to level up the parking area and had plans on how to extend the parking with the necessary permissions from the MOD. They also moved the area around the church and kept it tidy.

The meeting concluded with the action points being agreed.

RW thanked **A1** for all their support with the church and that would meet later in the year and to keep in touch via email/phone calls as things progressed.

Part D - Action Plan.

Community Actions

Short term actions (to end September 2023)

- Ensure posters are displayed for contact to open church, volunteers and hiring
- Consider ways to recruit more volunteers
- Consider putting on table sale/local crafts/bring and buy to raise profile of church in local community and start raising funds to support roof and electrical repairs
- Review CCT Cleaning Churches standard and report

Medium term actions (to end March 2024)

- Investigate suitability of church for concerts or other uses, and of promotion to prospective local audiences.
- Consider use of the church as gallery space, offering local artists and makers a chance to mount exhibitions, or providing community groups and educational establishments with a suitable venue for temporary displays
- Consider the suitability of the site for Champing

Long term actions (to end September 2024)

Actions complete (to end January 2023)

Local Community Officer Actions

Short term actions (to end September 2023)

- Complete community audit
- Re-engage with MOD and Tedworth House
- Review church web page to ensure clear directions available for all visitors
- Share CCT Cleaning Churches standard and report

Medium term actions (to end March 2024)

- Consider producing an online audio guide for the church to address the lack of printed interpretation available.
- Consider adding video directions to the church for prospective visitors' information
- Investigate suitability of church for concerts or other uses, and of promotion to prospective local audiences.
- Consider use of the church as gallery space, offering local artists and makers a chance to mount exhibitions, or providing community groups and educational establishments with a suitable venue for temporary displays
- Consider the suitability of the site for Champing

Long term actions (to end September 2024)

Actions complete (to end January 2023)

- Distribution Part A reports for each church to all existing correspondents, together with survey
- Receive, anonymise and collate survey responses and add to Church Plan Part B
- Resolve initial findings, conclusions and recommendations based on Part A & B, expressed as short, medium and long-term actions
- Publish Part A, B & D as Interim Church Plan to colleagues by end September 2020
- Undertake staff consultation against Interim Church Plan by end November 2020
- By end November 2020 review colleagues' feedback regarding updates to church plan part A, to include
 - Conservation interpretations
 - Presentation improvements
 - Champing data
- Resolve updated findings, conclusions and recommendations based on Part A, B & C expressed as short, medium and long-term actions for each site (Part D)
- Publish Church Plan Version '2021-22'
- Agree dates for face-to-face or digital community meetings by end January 2021
- Seek support from regional colleagues to remove GEMs belongings from the church.
- Seek to reopen the church following completion of a Covid – 19 pre-opening inspection
- Seek to appoint at least one local nominated keyholder volunteer for the church.
- Review potential for promoting availability of secure parking outside church
-

CCT Actions Other

Short term actions (to end September 2023)

- Provide quotes for roof and electrical repair and ascertain if any budget available to cover these – any shortfall could become the focus of a community initiative project
- Provide interpretation of maintenance and repair plans to further explain anticipated costs described in part A above.

Medium term actions (to end March 2024)

Long term actions (to end September 2024)

Actions complete (to end January 2023)

Appendix 1: Summer 2020 Questionnaire

1. This is the first of fourteen questions in the survey - thank you in advance for working through each one. First of all, we need to know if you're completing the survey on behalf of an organisation or writing in a personal capacity (If you're writing on behalf of an organisation, please use the text box to let us know which one. Thank you!)
2. Which church are you writing about? (Don't worry, you can complete additional questionnaires for other sites if you like!) Please state the location and dedication, as in 'Sapperton, St. Kenelm's'. Thank you.
3. People are involved with our sites in so many different ways. In your own words, please describe your relationship with the church building.
4. Some people are actively involved at the churches we look after together. If you're part of this group, tell us about your involvement. Cleaning, attending services and fundraising are just a few of the most frequent activities we share, but we'd appreciate as much detail as you might be happy to provide.
5. In your own words, and having reviewed 'Part A' of our church plan (sent to you by email with the invitation to this questionnaire), please describe a perfect outcome for our work together at the church. What would you like to see happen in terms of community involvement and other use of the building?
6. Bearing in mind the repair liabilities and running costs described in the report you've read, what challenges do you anticipate for a sustainable future at your church?
7. Thinking about local life away from the church, which other community projects or activities are you aware of that could combine with our work to protect the church for the future?
8. Here are two questions together... Could increased use of the church benefit the community? How would this increased use benefit the church itself?
9. What do you think are the most important conservation priorities at your church? For each or all of these priorities, please also let us know about any ideas you have for addressing them.
10. Income and expenditure for the church is detailed in 'Part A' of the report we sent you. Addressing conservation priorities will entail finding new ways to raise funds. Tell us

about any ideas or opportunities you have identified for raising additional income at the church.

11. What do you think might be the best ways to get started with any fundraising activities you have suggested?
12. If you don't already, would you be interested and available to take part in future fundraising activity?
13. Almost done! We'd like to invite you to join us in a group discussion about the church later this year, either in person or through 'phone / video conference. Would you be willing to join the discussion?
14. Last question! Is there anything else you'd like to share about your interest in the church which we haven't asked you already? Otherwise, thank you again so much for reflecting on the future of the church through your answers.

Appendix 2: Typical Maintenance Tasks Forecast - 25 Years (Not Including Twice-Annual Maintenance Visits)

Item	Method & Purpose	Cycle/Yrs	Estimated Cost per visit (present day levels)	Cumulative Estimated Total Cost After 25 Years (2020 values)
Drains, rodding	Below-ground drains can be blocked by debris which stops the rain water dispersing properly and potentially leading to water backing up and overflowing. To prevent this they require rodding and cleaning even ten years.	1	£ 39.00	£ 975.00
Soakaways, inspection and clearance of silt build-up	Soakaways consist of a large pit filled with gravel of varying sizes which act as a filter to allow rainwater to slowly seep into the surrounding ground. Over time material carried into the soakaway in the rain water fills in the gaps and slows the rate of dispersal which can lead to water backing up and potentially damaging or even flooding the church	10	£ 600.00	£ 1,500.00

Mansafe hatchway system	Man safe systems are steel cables or anchor points which are fixed to the roofs of churches to allow people to safely access and work on the roof. As these systems are used for safety it is a legal requirement that they are tested every year for loose fittings or damaged cables.	1	£ 360.00	£ 9,000.00
Lightning conductor testing	Lightning conductors are required to be checked every three years to make sure that they are still performing correctly and will be able to disperse a lightning strike effectively. Metal thefts have often targeted lightning conductors and they may need replacing.	3	£ 480.00	£ 4,000.00
Organ maintenance	Organs are complex machines built using numerous natural materials which can be damaged by moisture, heat and animal attack. It is recommended that organs are checked every year to carry out minor repairs and to be re-tuned as required. Regular servicing can also reduce the likelihood of large unexpected repair bills.	1	£ 140.00	£ 3,500.00

Fire extinguisher inspection	Fire extinguishers servicing checks that the fire extinguishers are functional and maintaining adequate pressure for use in an emergency. Note the CCT only provides fire extinguisher in churches which are either stewarded, used for Champing™ or have significant timber items.	1	£ 166.00	£ 4,150.00
Electrical periodic inspection testing	Electrical tests ensure that the electrical system of the church is both safe and fully functioning. The test will check all elements of the system and highlight any concerns.	5	£ 350.00	£ 1,750.00
Replacement of electrical fittings	As items are highlighted as faulty through periodic testing and maintenance visits they will need to be replaced.	15	£ 1,500.00	£ 2,500.00
Replacement of lamps	General wear and tear - Bulbs require regular replacement. Note LED bulbs will be used where possible	2	£ 250.00	£ 3,125.00
Heating installation, servicing	Annual servicing of the heating system to ensure the efficiency and safe working order of the boiler etc.	1	£ 384.00	£ 9,600.00
Roof alarm, servicing	Roof alarms require annual servicing to check that the system is in good working order and to replace minor parts such as the batteries in sensors.	1	£ 316.80	£ 7,920.00

Rainwater goods, redecoration	All external rainwater Goods (RWG) require redecoration as they are in exposed locations and are exposed to significant amounts of water. The redecoration significantly extends the lifespan of the RWGs and ensures that they are working correctly and are securely fixed in position.	7	£ 1,560.00	£ 5,571.43
Internal & external ironwork redecoration	Redecorating the ironwork prolongs the life of the item and improves the aesthetic of the church. The redecoration of ironwork also provides a good opportunity to inspect the item for damage.	7	£ 1,500.00	£ 5,357.14
External joinery, redecoration	Redecorating external joinery prolongs the life of the item and improves the aesthetic of the church. The redecoration of ironwork also provides a very good opportunity to inspect the item for damage.	7	£ 1,875.00	£ 6,696.43
Window repairs	Minor repairs to the windows such as broken panes of glass, replacement of glazing bars, mortar repairs or lead work repairs are important to exclude the weather and birds and other animals.	5	£ 350.00	£ 1,750.00
Bell maintenance	Bells require ad hoc inspection and minor maintenance to fixtures and fittings	5	£ 235.00	£ 1,175.00

Condition inspection report, all specialists	We have a 9 yearly architect or surveyors inspection plan. When the survey is undertaken all elements of the church will be inspected and a prioritised plan for all required repairs will be created.	9	£ 450.00	£ 1,250.00
Roof overhaul	Roofs require constant minor maintenance with a major overhaul every seven years	7	£ 2,500.00	£ 8,928.57
Clock maintenance	An annual service of the clock with minor repairs and checks to ensure good timekeeping	1	£ 140.00	£ 3,500.00
Tree inspection	A five yearly inspection of all the trees in the churchyards we are responsible for to check for defects and enable us to plan for any required works.	5	£ 225.00	£ 1,125.00
Churchyard maintenance	Grass cutting and minor trimming of plants and bushes etc.	0.5	£ 200.00	£ 10,000.00
Overheads	Office costs to support maintenance planning etc.	1	£ 20.00	£ 500.00
Staff Costs	Staff costs incurred in preparing the required inspections and reports	1	£ 97.00	£ 2,425.00
TOTAL (Excluding VAT)				£107,598.57
TOTAL (Excluding VAT) / 25 years				£4,303.94

Appendix 3: Typical Maintenance Tasks Forecast - (Twice-Annual Maintenance Visits)

Item	Method & Purpose
Gutters, downpipes and gully clearance	Gutters, hoppers and downpipes are easily blocked by leaves and debris both windborne and dropped by birds which can lead to overflowing and water damage to the building.
Roof, inspection & replacing slipped/missing slates/tiles	Over time some slates/tiles or the pegs/nails which hold them will reach the end of their useful lifespan. When this happens it will allow slates to move from their correct position which can let rain in to the building and potentially poses a risk to visitors as the slate/tiles can fall.
Vegetation, control of growth	Overgrown vegetation against walls and buildings can hold moisture against the building potentially causing damage and some plant species are invasive. Vegetation can also obscure the building hiding potential damage and can provide shelter for vermin such as mice.
Tower stairs & boiler room steps, sweeping	Leaves and other debris can build up on steps which could lead to accidents if people slip. Regular sweeping reduces the risk for potential accidents.
Principal steps and paths, clearance	Leaves and other debris can build up on steps which could lead to accidents if people slip. This is especially the case for churches with trees in the area. Regular sweeping of the steps reduces the risk for potential accidents.
Wall Safe, servicing	Servicing of the wall safe helps to ensure that the donations can be easily collected and also checks to ensure that there hasn't been an attempt to steal from the safe.

Appendix 4: Typical Champing™ Arrangements and Related Income

Champing™ is the exclusive overnight hire of a church to visitors. Camp beds and chairs are set up inside the church, along with tea making provisions, battery lighting, and cushions and blankets to give guests a cosy stay.

Guests book online through the Champing™ website www.champing.co.uk and these bookings are related to local contacts so everyone knows when visitors are staying. A local member of staff sets out equipment for the night and removes all gear each morning. Guests have exclusive access to the church between 6.00 p.m. until 10.00 a.m. so visitors can enjoy the church during the day.

Champers don't expect much in the way of facilities and understand that these are ancient buildings. For most churches we've installed eco-loos either inside or outside in wooden cabins. We don't allow candles but provide battery lanterns and fairy lights. As most of our churches don't have heating we only operate Champing™ between the end of March and the end of October, and we recommend Champers bring warm sleeping bags and extra blankets. We also supply bedding and breakfasts but this option isn't available at all churches. Most Champers will eat out locally or may bring their own picnic.

For those churches without electricity we provide a gas camping stove and we also provide amply bottled water for Champers and all visitors to use.

Typically Champers are couples and families. Some of our churches are large enough to welcome groups of up to 16 people. We are dog-friendly, and child-friendly. Many Champers appreciate the history, architecture, and unique features of their surroundings, and come to learn about the building and its locale through this unique accommodation. We offer those staying for the first time a free CCT membership so they can learn more about our work and consider support for The Trust after their visit.

You can evaluate typical income which derives from Champing™ in the table below.

Church	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
Langport, Somerset	£10,472.40	£2,765.60	£3,809.94	£3,128.00	£20,175.94
Emborough, Somerset		£2,024.30	£1,378.49	£2,625.00	£6,027.79
Chiselhampton, Oxfordshire	£10,156.29	£2,696.40	£5,864.11	£1,705.00	£20,421.80
Wolfhamcote, Warwickshire		£3,001.00	£2,213.77	£1,624.00	£6,838.77
Holme Lacy, Herefordshire		£4,368.80	£4,758.55	£1,004.00	£10,131.35
TOTAL	£20,628.69	£14,856.10	£18,024.86	£10,086.00	£63,595.65